

that I want to die and go to heaven ; but I keep praying for you, and now, while I stand here, Jesus Christ makes me very happy. The old people say I am foolish because I don't go in their pagan dance, as I used to go. They say I have been dreaming like them, and have not obeyed the dream ; and that I am therefore sick and shall die if I keep in this new way. But this is not so ; my old sins and foolish ways have made my poor body weak - that is the reason. But my heart is happy, and when I die I shall go to heaven, where there is no sin and no sickness. I thank our white friends who are so good to us, and want them to pray much for me and my people."

*Joe Toucalt*, (a probationer). "I have heard God's word a good while now, but was often very foolish. I am thankful I see this new year. I have never seen such things before as we see to-night. My heart is very happy—not because of this food, but the good words that are spoken. We are a poor people and God sends all these good things for us. I have given up my old ways, not because I am afraid of the ministers, or the magistrate, but I fear God and believe his word. I am not proud when I say this ; but I feel very small and humble. I wish you all felt just like me. It is God's spirit helps me to feel thus, and speak to you. What are we here for? Not for this food but to hear about God. Not here in foolish noise and dancing, but in God's house. I want all the young men to obey God and his ministers. Truly, God is our great friend and chief. He will help

us, and if our hearts are true we shall all meet in heaven."

These addresses were interspersed with singing and by remarks from several of our white brethren, and there was much of the melting of heart so often characterizing old-fashioned love-feasts.

At the close the Chairman addressed the scholars present, and, by request of the teacher distributed presents among them, giving a few special marks of approval to some commended for regular attendance and good conduct. An expression of thanks to the ladies who furnished the repast was offered in very good taste, on behalf of the Indians, by *Sameaton*. The National Anthem was then sung, and the service closed by prayer. On retiring we found several pitch-pine flambeaux had been prepared by the young Indians, who politely accompanied us to the town, the illumination having a very picturesque effect on the procession and surrounding scenery.

We have formidable obstacles to surmount in the prosecution of our work among this people. But Mr. Crosby's knowledge of the language, and his occasional visits to the surrounding tribes are beginning to tell upon their prejudices and superstitions. I sometimes wish for youth again, and opportunity to learn their language, and in its place before them the Holy Scriptures. Will not our Christian friends pray that God may dispose some young men, with vigorous minds and self-denying zeal, *to devote themselves to this work?*

WE present the following letter from our Missionary to these Indians, Mr. T. Crosby, dated as late as Dec. 12th, 1868, embodying very cheering statements of his labors and progress, and constituting a ground of appeal for liberal contributions to the Society, to maintain and extend the work, where the openings are so plain and inviting.

NANAIMO INDIAN VILLAGE,  
December 12th, 1868.

As the first quarter is just closed since we received the Conference appointments, I write to give you a short account of our Indian work during that time. I have visited the Fraser River three times during the quarter, besides the tribes on the east coast of this Island, between here and Victoria, and

we have been much encouraged to find the people generally so glad to meet us and hear the word of life in their own language. And often in our travelling, and sleeping out at night exposed to the cold and wet, have we felt,

"Labour is rest, and pain is sweet,  
While thou, my God, art near."

In my last visit to Chilweack and Su-